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DOCKET NO.: MSFT-2844/306723.01

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Ashish Shah, et al.

Confirmation No.: 9293

Application No.: 10/692,515

Group Art Unit: 2171

Filing Date: October 24, 2003

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: **SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR PROVIDING SYNCHRONIZATION SERVICES FOR UNITS OF INFORMATION MANAGEABLE BY A HARDWARE/SOFTWARE INTERFACE SYSTEM**

DATE OF DEPOSIT: 1/5/05

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID, ON THE DATE INDICATED ABOVE AND IS ADDRESSED TO THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450.

David M. De Santo

TYPED NAME: David M. De Santo

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56 and in accordance with 37 CFR §§ 1.97-1.98, information relating to the above-identified application is hereby disclosed. Inclusion of information in this statement is not to be construed as an admission that this information is material as that term is defined in 37 CFR § 1.56(b).

☒ In accordance with § 1.97(b), since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed either within three months of the filing date of the above-identified

application, within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of the above identified application as set forth in § 1.491, before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits of the above-identified application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of request for continued examination under § 1.114, no additional fee is required.

- ☐ In accordance with § 1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the period set forth in § 1.97(b) above but before the mailing date of either a Final Action under § 1.116 or a Notice of Allowance under § 1.311, or before an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, therefore:

☐ Certification in Accordance with § 1.97(e) is attached; or

☐ The fee of \$180.00 as set forth in § 1.17(p) is attached.

- ☐ In accordance with § 1.97(d), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of either a Final Action under § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under § 1.311 but before, or simultaneously with, the payment of the Issue Fee, therefore included are: Certification in Accordance with § 1.97(e); and the submission fee of \$180.00 as set forth in § 1.17(p).

- ☒ Copies of reference numbers **1 and 2** listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith.

- ☐ Copies of reference numbers - on the attached Form PTO 1449 are not required to be submitted pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(2)(i).

- ☐ Copies of references - are not being submitted because they were previously cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in patent application number , filed for

DOCKET NO.: MSFT-2844/306723.01 - 3 -

PATENT

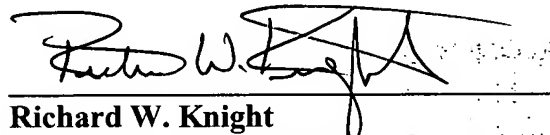
which a claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120 has been made in the
instant application.

Enclosed is a copy of the PCT International Search Report dated **November 29, 2004**,
which indicates the reference(s) to be relevant.

There are no listed references which are not in the English language.

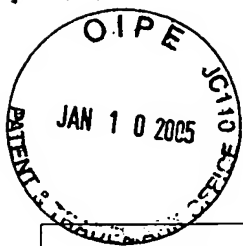
Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-
3050. This form is submitted in duplicate.

Date: 04 JAN 05


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**Form PTO-1449 Modified**

List of Patent and Publications
Cited by Applicant
(Use several sheets if necessary)

U.S. Department of Commerce
Patent and Trademark Office

Docket No.
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10/692,515

Applicant
Ashish Shah, et al.,

Filing Date
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Group
2171

Confirmation No.
9293

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Document No.	Date	Name	Class	Subclass
	1	6,772,178 B2	08/03/04	Mandal, et al.	707	204
	2	2002/0152422 A1	10/17/02	Sharma, et al.	713	13

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Document No.	Date	Country	Translation	
					YES	NO

EXAMINER**DATE CONSIDERED**